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MASEFIELD

BY FLORENCE EARLE COATES

On re-reading *Gallipoli* and the *Sonnets*

I thought on England in her tragic hour
Of sacrifice supreme for human right;
Beheld her bleeding, broken in the fight
With a massed tyranny's stupendous power;
And musing on far graves where lie her flower
Of manhood, memory so dimmed my sight
That I forgot the dawn that crowned her night—
The victory that was her valor's dower.

Then, even as I grieved, I saw once more
How genius can atone and re-create:
How, by its own high gift, it can restore
The Land that gives it birth to sovereign State,
Rekindling glories that it knew before,
And deepening its life to life as great!